

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 15, 2005

Upon Recess of BMA

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll. There were Aldermen twelve present.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Porter, O'Neil, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity and Smith

Absent: Aldermen Thibault and Forest

Messrs.: Kevin Clougherty, Fire Chief Kane

Mayor Baines addressed item 3 of the agenda:

3. Resolutions:

“Amending the FY2005 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Ten Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Five Dollars (\$10,225.00) for the 2005 CIP 810305 VISTA Coordinator Project.”

“Amending the FY2005 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$219,800) for the CIP 613205 Downtown & Economic Strategies Report.”

“Amending the FY2005 Community Improvement Program, transferring authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) for the 2005 CIP 510305 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Project.”

“Amending the FY2005 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Twenty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Three Dollars and Eight Cents (\$26,923.08) for FY2005 CIP 411605 2004 Homeland Security Grant Program.”

“Amending the FY2003 Community Improvement Program, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) for the 2003 CIP 712103 S. Mammoth Sewer – Phase 3 Project.”

“Amending the FY2001 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) for the FY2001 CIP 840001 MCTV-PEG Access Grant Project.”

“Amending the FY2001 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) for CIP 730201 MAA – Property Acquisition Project.”

On motion of Alderman O’Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted to dispense with the readings of the Resolutions by title only.

Alderman O’Neil moved that the Resolutions ought to pass and be enrolled. Alderman Smith duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Garrity stated can I ask the Police Chief on the Homeland Security...what are we purchasing for \$26,000?

Mayor Baines stated either Chief...Chief Kane coordinates the grant, so I think he can answer it.

Fire Chief Kane replied that grant money is going directly to the Police Department; that is grant money for the SWAT Team equipment.

Mayor Baines called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Resolution:

“Amending the FY2000, 2001, 2002 and 2005 Community Improvement Program, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Twenty Six Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Six Dollars and Forty Cents (\$26,536.40) for the 2005 CIP 511505 Gill Stadium Field Equipment Project.”

On motion of Alderman DeVries, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted that the Resolution be read by title only, and it was so done.

Alderman Lopez moved that the Resolution ought to pass and be enrolled.
Alderman Smith duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Gatsas stated my understanding was we spent \$90,000+/- on equipment at Gill or some number close to that.

Alderman O'Neil stated I don't think we spent any money on Gill and I think that's the issue; that might have been a budget number at one point, but I don't think we purchased any equipment.

Alderman Smith stated that was a report from Ron Ludwig saying what he needed to the light contract, the tractors, the field mark and so forth and came up to \$93,000, but nothing was expended to Parks and Recreation Department at all, not one penny.

Alderman Gatsas asked wasn't that money in the bonded dollars?

Mr. Clougherty replied no. It's not a bondable item any of them.

Alderman Gatsas stated or the money that was expended for the \$850,000 that the City paid for the additional costs...I don't know we haven't had a baseball meeting in so long I can't tell you what's happening.

Alderman Lopez interjected we're going to have one.

Alderman Gatsas stated I was just checking I thought maybe the first ball would be thrown out before we had that.

Alderman Lopez stated I think it's a very good question and it's been answered. This has been going on for a little over a year now with Parks and Recreation. It came up to about \$86,000 total...about \$94,000 was the original figure but no action has ever been taken and I probably agree that we should have taken it out of the \$850,000 but it didn't happen and now we're right around the corner for spring operation and he does need this equipment which is one of the reasons for this resolution tonight to give him the tools that he needs to work with and at the same time there are a couple of items there that the CIP Committee is going to be looking at and will be coming back on, but the most important thing is that he needs the money and actually needs a little bit more than \$26,000 and at the end of the meeting maybe we should take it up later on too.

Alderman Smith stated to answer Alderman Gatsas' question. If you remember the \$850,000 went to the elevator which was approximately \$500,000 towards Gill Stadium. If you remember correctly there was quite a debate and there were letters sent from Boston...

Alderman Gatsas asked wasn't that \$450,000?

Alderman Smith stated something like that and I've been advocating this because we put \$4 million into Gill Stadium and we have no equipment to maintain it, it doesn't make sense to me.

Alderman Gatsas asked can somebody explain to me how he requested \$96,000 for equipment to maintain Gill Stadium and he can do it now for \$26,000?

Alderman O'Neil stated actually Ron is still looking for the \$96,000 but the committee asked him to prioritize the request and we would deal as best we could and that's where it's at. Alderman Lopez has been working to try to identify the money, so there was a priority list given to us by the Director and that's what we're working on.

Mayor Baines stated there's going to be another request later on in the meeting.

Alderman Roy stated I've looked at a long list of equipment needs through baseball and other committees but the description funds to be used to purchase equipment to support the conversion of fields between seasons...is this something that we could tap the private industry and rental companies to look at offsetting some costs, is this a bad description or are we looking to use this equipment twice-a-year?

Alderman O'Neil replied I think as Alderman Lopez said there's a couple of items I think the CIP Committee should discuss. There's a basic piece of equipment which was the number one priority which was a utility tractor which I think everybody is in agreement he needs for baseball season. There were some other pieces of equipment that I think the committee wants to have a discussion with the Director about whether or not just that. Does it make some sense to rent some equipment for specific use. He's already committed \$26,000 for the lighting contract and he's already paying because we failed to act on this which should have been part...which was part of that original \$96,000 request.

Alderman Smith stated I think the reason this is coming about is you need specialized equipment because it's synthetic turf and you've got to treat it...like I say here's another thing why we're going to get to the enterprise system. You

realize now that we had the synthetic turf down there and in 8 or 10 years we might have to put in \$800-900,000 for new turf. We don't know, the guarantee is eight years, so we have a cost and we'd better maintain what we have now.

Mayor Baines called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Mayor Baines addressed item 4 of the agenda:

4. CIP Budget Authorizations:

730201	Property Acquisition – Revision #1
840001	MCTV-PEG Access Grant – Revision #2
711603	Candia Road Sewer – Revision #1
712103	S. Mammoth Sewer – Phase 3 – Revision #2
411904	Project Safe Neighborhoods – Revision #1
412004	Speed Enforcement – Revision #2
410505	NHDWI Patrol Program – Revision #2
411605	2004 Homeland Security Grant Program
510305	Parks & Recreation Master Plan – Revision #1
511505	Gill Stadium Field Equipment
613205	Downtown & Economic Strategies
810305	VISTA Coordinator – Revision #1

On motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman DeVries, it was voted that the CIP budget authorizations be approved, subject to final adoption of related resolutions.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee